

Purple Swampphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*)

(13 subspecies; 1 within plan area)

Conservation Concern Category:
High Concern

Population Trend (PT)

P. porphyrio samoensis—unknown (Delany and Scott 2002)

“*samoensis* was formerly locally common and was considered a pest because it consumed planted yams...the species has been reduced locally throughout its range by removal of marginal wetland vegetation and drainage...” (Taylor 1998)

PT FACTOR SCORE=4?

Population Size (PS)

P. porphyrio samoensis—10,000-100,000 total individuals (Delany and Scott 2002; Dutson 2002; Barre and Dutson 2000, estimate 2,000-3,000 total individuals in New Caledonia)

“in the tropical Pacific *samoensis* is uncommon to rare on most islands...” (Taylor 1998)

“uncommon on the island of Tutuila, American Samoa...” (A. Brooke, pers.comm.)

PS FACTOR SCORE=2-3

Threats to Breeding Populations (TB)

“vulnerable to wetland destruction, degradation and modification, and to frequent disturbance...domestic stock also adversely affect its habitats by grazing and trampling...will tolerate a limited amount of human disturbance... predators include eagles, harriers, foxes and jackals...” (Taylor 1998)

“not limited to wetlands but found in thick undergrowth of lowland forests and populated areas...” (A. Brooke, pers.comm.)

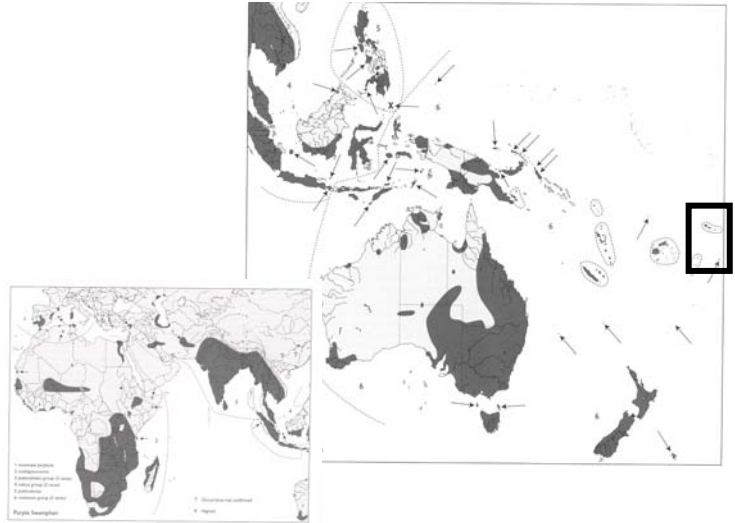
“threats to *P. porphyrio* in American Samoa would seem to be primarily habitat loss and occasional predation by humans to control its perceived impact on crops such as bananas. Cats are presumably potential predators on juveniles, and rats on eggs. Given the species ubiquity (albeit not in high numbers) in proximity to human habitations, there seems little indication these factors are having a significant impact...” (J. Seamon, pers.comm.)

TB FACTOR SCORE=4?

Threats to Non-breeding Populations (TN)

TN FACTOR SCORE=4?

Global Range (Taylor 1998; inset=plan area range)



Breeding Distribution (BD)

P. porphyrio samoensis—Admiralty Is S to New Caledonia, E to Samoa (Delany and Scott 2002)

2,900 km² (plan area distribution; estimated from range maps)

BD FACTOR SCORE=5

Non-breeding Distribution (ND)

P. porphyrio samoensis—Admiralty Is S to New Caledonia, E to Samoa (Delany and Scott 2002)

2,900 km² (plan area distribution; estimated from range maps)

ND FACTOR SCORE=5

References:

- Delany, S. and S. Scott. 2002. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Third Edition. Wetlands International Global Series No. 12*, Wageningen, The Netherlands. Pp: 130
- Taylor, Barry. 1998. *Purple Swampphen. Rails: A guide to the Rails, Crakes, Gallinules and Coots of the World*. Yale University Press. Pp: 458-467.
- Amerson, A. B., Jr., W. A. Whistler, and T. D. Schwaner. 1982. *Wildlife and wildlife habitat*

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